

Compliance Assessment Report

Report ID:
CAR_NRW0027069

This form will report compliance with your permit as determined by an NRW officer

Site	Ewloe Waste Transfer Station	Permit Ref	BP3797SZ		
Operator/Permit holder	Thorncliffe Building Supplies Ltd				
Regime	Waste Operations				
Date of assessment	20/01/2017	Time in	10:00	Out	11:45
Assessment type	Site Inspection				
Parts of the permit assessed	Permitted Area and EMS				
Lead officer's name	Sowerby, Andrew R.				
Accompanied by	Ellis, Rhys				
Recipient's name/position	Tim Harper/ Dan Harper/ Jim Morgan/ Director/ TCM	Date issued	13/02/2017		

Section 1 – Compliance Assessment Summary

This is based on the requirements of the permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations or the licence under the Water Resources Act 1991 as amended by the Water Act 2003. A detailed explanation is captured in "Compliance Assessment Report Detail" (Section 2) and any actions you may need to take are given in the "Action(s)" (section 4). This summary details where we believe any non-compliance with the permit has occurred, the relevant condition and how the non-compliance has been categorised using our Compliance Classification Scheme (CCS). CCS Scores can be consolidated or suspended where appropriate, to reflect the impact of some non-compliances more accurately. For more details of our CCS scheme, contact your local office.

Permit conditions and compliance summary	CCS Category	Condition(s) breached
A1 - Specified by permit	A	
B1 - Infrastructure - Engineering for prevention and control of emissions	A	
B3 - Infrastructure - Site drainage engineering (clean and foul)	O	1.1.1
B4 - Infrastructure - Containment of stored materials	A	
C1 - General Management - Staff competency/training	A	
C2 - General Management - Management system and operating procedures	A	
C3 - General Management - Materials acceptance	A	
C4 - General Management - Storage, handling labelling and Segregation	A	
D1 - Incident Management - Site security	A	
E2 - Emissions - Land and groundwater	A	
E3 - Emissions - Surface water	A	
F1 - Amenity - Odour	A	
F3 - Amenity - Dust/fibres/particulates and litter	A	
F4 - Amenity - Pests/birds and scavengers	A	
F5 - Amenity - Deposits on road	A	
G4 - Monitoring and Records, Maintenance and Reporting - Reporting and notification to Natural Resources Wales	A	

KEY: See Section 5 for breach categories, suspended scores will be indicated as such.

A = Assessed or assessed in part (no evidence of non-compliance), **X** = Action only,
O = Ongoing non-compliance, not scored.

Number of breaches recorded	0	Total compliance score (see section 5 for scoring scheme)	0
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If the Number of breaches recorded is greater than zero, please see Section 3 for our proposed enforcement response

Section 2 – Compliance Assessment Report Detail

This section contains a report of our findings and will usually include information on:

- The part(s) of the permit that were assessed (eg. Maintenance, training, combustion plant, etc)
- Where the type of assessment was 'Data Review' details of the report/results triggering the assessment
- Any non-compliances identified
- Any non-compliances with directly applicable legislation
- Details of any multiple non-compliances
- Information on the compliance score accrued inc.
- Details of advice given
- Any other areas of concern
- Any actions requested
- Any examples of good practice
- A reference to photos taken

The visit to site was pre-arranged. The aim of the "mini-audit" is to attempt to establish any common industrial practices with regards to rdf and ultimately to ensure that all companies in North Wales are producing, storing and classifying rdf appropriately and consistently. This audit was done as one of a number of other similar visits being carried out at targeted permitted sites across North Wales.

I was accompanied to site by Regulatory Officer Rhys Ellis. We met both Dan Harper and Jim Morgan on site. The inspection was split into two sections. The first section involved completing a questionnaire, and the second was an inspection of the site. A summary of the questions asked and the answers provided is below.

The site produces both waste fines and a rdf waste.

Fines

Fines are produced from the trade waste accepted on site. Much of this waste comes from the skip business that Thorncliffes operate. Trade waste is kept separate from the other waste types on site. This waste type is deposited within the new building where it is hand sorted before being passed through a trommel. The fines produced from this process are then categorised as EWC 19 12 12. I was informed on site that half of these fines are sent straight to landfill (Hafod) while the other half are sent to the Thorncliffes Abergele site for further treatment.

There have been dust issues on site in the past but recent developments to the sites infrastructure has meant that there is now a water suppression system in place to help reduce the likelihood of dust in the future.

RDF - Refuse Derived Fuel

The main input into the rdf production process is mixed municipal waste (20 03 01), mainly from Flintshire County Council. This waste is then subjected to a very crude sorting process, whereby any large items of recyclable material may be removed from the pile prior to it being passed through a shredder. Metals are removed from the municipal waste by a magnet on the shredder itself. The resultant shredded waste is then stored for a short period of time before it is taken away loose to the Viridor EfW site in Runcorn. This shredded waste or rdf is produced to a specification that has been outlined by the Viridor site in Runcorn. This specification includes a calorific value, size, and lists what waste would be considered unacceptable.

Thorncliffes use a waste broker to arrange deliveries to the Runcorn EfW site. This waste broker also carries out random frequent testing on the waste at the site to ensure it is of good enough quality. The Runcorn EfW site also test incoming loads every now and then to ensure the waste is acceptable for the plant. Thorncliffes have tested the waste themselves on occasion but the cost of doing these tests means that it is not done regularly.

The incoming waste is stored for a maximum of 2 days (except at weekends where any waste left over at the end of Friday is processed by the end of Monday. The shredded rdf waste generally leaves site on the day it is processed. However, their EMS does allow them 1 to 5 days maximum storage.

I was informed that so far no waste loads had been rejected by the Viridor EfW Runcorn site but that if they were the load would either be returned to the Thorncliffes site or diverted to an appropriate alternative location, depending upon the situation. If, for any reason, Runcorn were unable to accept any loads of waste on site then the waste would be sent either to the Thorncliffes Abergele site for further processing or sent to landfill for disposal.

As was raised on the day and during the site audit at the Abergele site we still have some questions regarding the coding of the rdf that is leaving site for Runcorn. Currently any waste/rdf leaving site for Runcorn is coded as 19 12 12. We have raised the question as to whether this is the most suitable code or if 19 12 10 should be used instead. We are hoping to get further guidance

on the use of these EWC codes in the future and once we do we will provide feedback to you.

Following the questionnaire Dan Harper accompanied Officer Rhys Ellis and myself around site. No new issues were observed on site that hadn't been recorded before and addressed in previous CAR forms.

The municipal waste accepted from Flintshire County Council is still being stored in the open sided sheds in photo 1 below. When large quantities of this waste is on site it has a tendency to overflow onto the concrete pad in front of the building. Due to lack of space within the building the waste is also shredded outside the shed. As has been highlighted before, Schedule 1 of your environmental permit states that these types of waste should be stored and treated within a building.



Photo 1

As has been detailed before, we are aware that you have applied for planning permission to improve the sites infrastructure so that these wastes can be stored and treated indoors and that because the decision on this planning permission has been postponed a number of times the building has not been completed by the dates originally hoped for. In the meantime, however, you should be attempting to do whatever you can to ensure waste remains undercover. This includes covering any piles you can, especially overnight and during the weekends.

As has been highlighted in previous inspection forms, seagulls were observed to be circling the site and the measures being taken to deter them were discussed. It is hoped that once waste is being stored and treated within a building a significant reduction in the numbers of seagulls will be observed. Until such time as this can happen you will need to continue taking all appropriate measures to deter them. Due to recent avian flu warnings it is recognised that the use of a bird of prey is restricted. However, once restrictions are lifted we will expect to hear that the bird of prey is again being used to attempt to scare these pests away.

The situation with the drainage detailed in the last site inspection form (CAR_NRW0026915) was again briefly discussed on site and since the inspection itself Tim Harper has provided me with the results of a dye test undertaken on the drains by Enviroclear and one of the options being considered to correct the issues. This test was able to trace the discharge from the site to a manhole at the corner of Smithy Lane before further attempts to follow the dye failed. The actions that needed to be taken to resolve the drainage problem were outlined in the last inspection form. Therefore you should complete a drainage plan for the site and supply final details on what actions will be taken to prevent potentially polluting surface water from discharging from the site by the 28th February 2017.

Overall, the site was observed to be in a tidy and organised condition.

At the end of the rdf and fines project we will be looking at the results we have gained and if there is any feedback we think needs to be passed back to operators we shall do so at that point.

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EPR Compliance Assessment Report

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CAR_NRW0027069**

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Site	Ewloe Waste Transfer Station	Permit Ref	BP3797SZ
Operator/Permit holder	Thornccliffe Building Supplies Ltd	Date	20/01/2017

Section 3 – Enforcement Response

You must take immediate action to rectify any non-compliance and prevent repetition. Non-compliance with your permit conditions constitutes an offence and can result in criminal prosecutions and/or suspension or revocation of a permit. Please read the detailed assessment in Section 2 and the steps you need to take in Section 4 below.

Section 4 – Action(s)

This section summarises the actions identified during the assessment along with the timescales for when they will need to be completed.

Criteria Ref.	CCS Category	Action required/advised	Due Date
See Section 1 above			
B3	O	Complete a drainage plan and provide final details on what actions will be taken to prevent potentially polluting surface water discharging from site.	28/02/2017

Section 5 – Compliance notes for the Operator

To ensure you correct actual or potential non-compliance we may

- Advise on corrective actions verbally or in writing
- Require you to take specific actions verbally or in writing
- Issue a notice
- Require you to review your procedures or management system
- Change some of the conditions of your permit
- Decide to undertake a full review of your permit

Any breach of a permit condition is an offence and we may take legal action against you

- We will normally provide advice and guidance to assist you to come back into compliance either after an offence is committed or where we consider that an offence is likely to be committed. This is without prejudice to any other enforcement response that we consider may be required.
- Enforcement action can include the issue of a formal caution, prosecution, the service of a notice and/or suspension or revocation of the permit.

See our Enforcement and Civil Sanctions guidance for further information

This report does not relieve the site operator of the responsibility to

- Ensure you comply with the conditions of the permit at all times and prevent pollution of the environment
- Ensure you comply with other legislative provisions which may apply

Non-compliance scores and categories

CCS category	Description	Score
C1	A non-compliance that could have a major environmental effect	60
C2	A non-compliance which could have a significant environmental effect	31
C3	A non-compliance which could have a minor environmental effect	4
C4	A non-compliance which has no potential environmental effect	0.1

Operational Risk Appraisal (Opra) - Compliance assessment findings may affect your Opra score and/or your charges. This score influences the resource we use to assess permit compliance.

Section 6 – General information

Data protection notice

The information on this form will be processed by the Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to fulfil its regulatory and monitoring functions and to maintain the relevant public register(s). The NRW may also use and/or disclose it in connection with:

- Offering/providing you with its literature/services relating to environmental matters
- Consulting with the public, public bodies and other organisations (eg. Health and Safety Executive, local authorities) on environmental issues
- Carrying out statistical analysis, research and development on environmental issues
- Providing public register information to enquirers
- Investigating possible breaches of environmental law
- Assessing customer service satisfaction and improving its service
- Freedom of Information Act/Environmental Regulations request

The NRW may pass it on to its agents/representatives to do these things on its behalf. You should ensure that any persons named on this form are informed of the contents of this data protection notice.

Disclosure of information

The NRW will provide a copy of this report to the public register(s). However, if you consider that any information contained in this report should not be released to the public register(s) on the grounds of commercial confidentiality, you must write to your local area office within fifteen working days of receipt of this form indicating which information it concerns and why it should not be released, giving your reasons in full.

Customer charter

What can I do if I disagree with this compliance assessment report?

If you are unable to resolve the issue with your site officer, you should firstly discuss the matter with officer's line managers using the informal appeals procedure. If you wish to raise your dispute further through our official Complaints and Commendations procedure, phone our general enquiry number 0300 065 3000 (Mon to Fri 08.00 – 18.00) and ask for the Customer Contact team or send an email to enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk. If you are still dissatisfied you can make a complaint to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales. For advice on how to complain to the Ombudsman phone their helpline on 0845 607 0987.

Welsh Language

If you would like this form in Welsh please contact your Regulatory Officer.